

REMARKS

Claims 57-60 and 62 are pending. Claims 1-56, 61 and 63-68 are canceled. Claims 57, 58 and 60 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

102 Rejections

In the Office Action dated October 2, 2007, claims 57-60 and 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable by JP 3039 (Japan Patent Application Publication No. H11-3039). However, Applicants respectfully submit that they have reviewed the JP 3039 reference, and could not find "a phase controller 37", "an inverter 38", etc. in JP 3039 as stated in the instant Office Action. Applicants also could not find how JP 3039 disclosed, taught, showed or suggested the present claimed invention.

The Examiner also cited JP 202285 (Japan Patent Application Publication No. 11-202285) in the instant Office Action. Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention set forth in claims 57-60 and 62 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by JP 202285. Applicants respectfully submit that JP 202285 reference does not teach, disclose or suggest each of the limitations of the independent claim 57. Claims 56-60 and 62 depend from claim 57 and set forth additional limitations of the embodiments of the claimed invention. Among other reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that JP 202285 does not teach or suggest a method including "modulating power to a plurality of loads based on pulse width of said phase-shifted burst mode signals" as set forth in independent claim 57. In the instant Office Action, the Examiner states that the JP reference discloses that "in figures 1-6, a phase controller (37) for generating a plurality of phase-shifted burst mode signals". However, Applicants respectfully submit that phase controller (37) does not modulate power to a

plurality of loads based on pulse width of phase-shifted burst mode signals as recited in the independent claim 57.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments of the claimed invention set forth in claims 57-60 and 62 are not taught, disclosed, or anticipated by JP 202285.

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner also states that "regarding claim 62, Reeves discloses in figures 3-4, an inverter 38 for turning power to at least one load on and off based on, at least in part, the state of a respective phase-shifted burst mode signal". However, Applicants have reviewed the Reeves reference (US Patent No. 6,426,611) and could not find the cited inverter 38 in figures 3-4 and also could not find how Reeves taught, disclosed, showed or suggested the present claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting claims 57-60 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. §102 is traversed.

Conclusions

The references cited but not relied upon (US Patent No. 6,469,454 and US Patent No. 6,904,112) were reviewed. Applicants could not find how these references taught, disclosed, showed or suggested the present claimed invention.

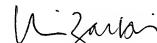
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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